

## A NEW PARASITIC FLY BRED FROM THE BEAN BEETLE.

By J. M. ALDRICH, *United States National Museum.*

The new species of fly herein described was reared in large numbers (some nine hundred) by E. G. Smyth from larvae of the bean beetle, *Epilachna corrupta* Muls. in late summer and fall of 1922. The beetle larvae were collected at Coapa, D. F., Mexico. Efforts have been made to introduce the fly into the region of Birmingham, Alabama, where the beetle has been introduced in the course of its recent spread through the Southern States.

***Paradexodes epilachnae*, new species.**

*Male*.—Head, thorax, abdomen and legs entirely black in ground color, the halteres and calypters yellow. Eyes bare; front .188 of head width (average of three,—.184, .189, and .191); outer vertical indistinguishable, ocellars present, orbitals absent, frontals in a single row each side, three or four upper ones reclinate, lowest as far down as arista; parafrontals and parafacials narrow, brown near vertex, gradually more cinereous below but not silvery, the parafacials bare; antennae black, third joint slender, hardly three times the second, reaching nearly to the vibrissae, which are at the oral margin and not much approximated; facial ridges with only a few small bristles close to the vibrissae; bucca one-fifth the eye-height; palpi black, ordinary, proboscis small.

Thorax with four black stripes anteriorly when viewed from behind, the posterior half or more shining black in most lights; three posterior dorsocentrals; sternopleurals two anterior, one posterior; anterior acrostichals three pairs, the hindmost close to suture; scutellum with a pair of long divergent apicals directed backward and two lateral pairs, with a small subdiscal pair near tip.

Abdomen conical and rather slender, with well-developed discals on segments two, three and four; median marginals also on the first; shining black in most lights except on the bases of the segments, but in other lights a thin white pruinosity extends broadly along the sides. Genital segments small, black, the second with numerous hairs directed backward; outer forceps brown, broad, curved toward tip, as long as the inner, which are black, slender, nearly straight and close together; penis short and blunt; claspers minute; fifth sternite deeply cleft, without special modifications.

Legs black, all claws and pulvilli moderately elongated; middle tibia with a bristle on outer front side, hind tibia on outer hind side with a few irregular and one long at middle, another of same length on inner hind side at middle.

Wing a little elongate, slightly infuscated toward costa; fourth vein curving obliquely and ending a little before the apex of the wing, the distance from the tip of the vein to the apex being slightly greater than the length of the anterior crossvein; third vein with two or three hairs at base.

*Female*.—Front .253 of head width (average of three,—.250, .256, and .257); the usual orbitals present; third antennal joint as in male; abdomen and wings somewhat shorter and broader; tip of abdomen with a short, blunt point protruding, about as in *Phorocera claripennis* Mcq. Calypters white.

Length of male, 5.5 to 6 mm.; of female, 5 to 5.5 mm.

Described from many specimens of both sexes, Coapa, Mexico, bred as above indicated.

*Type*.—Male, Cat. No. 26097, U. S. N. M.

It was at first anticipated that this species would be found among those described by Van der Wulp in his large work in *Biologia Centrali-Americana*. As experience has shown that these species are not recognizable with certainty from the descriptions, specimens were sent to the British Museum, where Van der Wulp's types are deposited; and Major E. E. Austen very kindly compared them with the types, coming to the conclusion that our species is different from all of them.

I refer the species to the genus *Paradexodes* after much examination of related forms. The type species of the genus is *aurifrons* Townsend, both genus and species having been described by him in *Smithsonian Miscellaneous Contributions*, No. 1803 (*Taxonomy of the Muscoidean Flies*), p. 101, 1908. The single male specimen there described as *aurifrons* is in the National Museum, and no additional material has been obtained. Townsend's later genus *Urodexodes* from Peru (*Proc. U. S. N. M.*, Vol. 56, p. 572, 1919, type *charapensis* in the same place) I would consider a synonym, as on comparing the two type specimens of the genotype species I see no differences that I can regard as generic; the differences mentioned in the description do not exist, save for a few of trifling importance. Absence of ocellars in *Urodexodes* is not generic, as other specimens collected at the same time and place and of barely subspecific difference have ocellars.

The genus *Ptilodegeeria* of Brauer and Bergenstamm (*Zweifl. Kais. Mus.*, v, 1891, 373, 375), with type *Hypostena obumbrata* Van der Wulp, (*Biologia*, Dipt., ii, 143, 1890), is closely related, as shown by specimens of *obumbrata* from the type lot, which we have received from the British Museum. The latter species however has densely hairy eyes, and the discal bristles are poorly developed.

*Epilachnae* is somewhat more closely related to *charapensis* than to *aurifrons* or *obumbrata*.

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## NEW ACULEATE HYMENOPTERA FROM THE UNITED STATES.

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The species described below have been submitted for identification and the descriptions are presented at this time so the names will be available.

*Nysson* (*Brachystegus*) *hoplisivora*, new species.

Because the apical band on first tergite is yellow instead of